ing foreign courses; and

(c) the measures proposed to protect Indian students from being duped by such foreign courses?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. R. BOMMAI): (a) to (c) The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has not approved any foreign affiliated programme nor has it any mechanism to check advertisements about such programmes in the newspapers. However, in order to create awareness among the public the Council has been issuing public notices in the newspapers in this regard.

Strength of Engineers in the Mechanical Department of RDSO

*51. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total strength of Engineers in the Mechanical Department of Research Design and Standards Organisation engaged in the development of Motive Power Wagons, Coach and EMU/DMU development and annual operating cost of these departments;

(b) the cost of technology transfer from foreign countries in regard to diesel locomotives, electric locomotives, bogies for locomotives, bogies for wagons and other related components;

(c) whether Railways have been buying technology from foreign countries at huge cost while we have a large strength of Engineers in RDSO for such technology; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The Research Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO) is a multi-disciplinary organisation engaged in research, design and standardisation in various facets of Railway working. A total of 112 Group 'A' and Group 'B' staff of various Directorates are engaged in the work associated with development of motive power, wagons, coaches and EMUs/DMUs. The annual operating cost for these Directorates/functions is Rs. 10.2 Cr.

(b) The costs of recent technology transfers entered into by Indian Railways are 9.2 million SF and 19.2 million DM for electric locomotives and US $ 17.5 million for diesel locomotives over a 10 year period.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Interest shown by Corporate Sector in Environmental Activities

*52. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's Corporate Sector has shown interest and taken up greening work in cities;

(b) if so, the names of cities, alongwith companies, where this work has been taken up;

(c) whether it is proposed to extend this work to semi-urban areas also; and

(d) the incentives given or proposed to be given to the Corporate Sector for planting and maintaining trees in the country as a whole?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPTAIN JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) to (d) The corporate sector has participated in the planting and maintenance of trees in the urban areas in India. Municipal bodies are responsible for such plantation work. Therefore information on the names of the companies involved is not maintained centrally in the Government of India. The Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment has an Investment Promotional Scheme to facilitate the mobilisation of resources from, inter-alia, the corporate sector for investment in plantation projects. Tax benefits are also available for contributions for the conservation of